

Abstract

Ceramics comprising (i) at least one of Nb_2O_5 or Ta_2O_5 and (ii) at least two of (a) Al_2O_3 , (b) REO, or (c) at least one of ZrO_2 or HfO_2 . Embodiments of ceramics according to the present invention can be made, formed as, or converted into optical waveguides, glass beads, articles (e.g., plates), fibers, particles (e.g., abrasive particles), and thin coatings.

5